

DK I mean I did talk to Gavin Hewitt yesterday – he phoned me in New York, so he may have picked up on what I said because I would have said exactly the same as I said to you

SW so he presumably decided not to name AC himself but just to label this as Number 10

DK yep yep

SW are you getting much flak over that?

DK me? No not yet anyway I was in New York (laugh)

SW yes good timing I suppose

DK I mean they wouldn't think it was mean I don't think

Maybe they would, maybe they wouldn't I don't know

SW um so is that the only item in the report that you had concerns over being single-sourced rather than double -sourced?

DK You have to remember I'm not part of the intelligence community – I'm a user of intelligence . of course I'm very familiar with a lot of it, it's just that I can't comment on it but I'm not deeply embedded into that xxx

So some of it I really can't comment because I don't know whether it's single-sourced or not

SW but on the 45 minutes

DK oh that I knew because I knew the concern about the statement . it was a statement that was made and it just got out of all proportion . you know someone . They were desperate for information they were pushing hard for information which could be released that was one that popped up and it was seized on and it was unfortunate that it was which is why there is the argument between the intelligence services and cabinet office/number ten, because things were picked up and once they've picked up on it you can't pull it back that's the problem

SW but it was against your advice that they should publish it?

DK I wouldn't go as strongly as to say that particular bit , because I was not involved in the assessment of it .no . I can't say that it was against MY advice.. I was uneasy with it I mean my problem was I could give other explanations which I've indicated to you. that it was the time to erect something like a scud missile or it was the time to fill a 40 barrel, multi barrel rocket launcher

45 minutes might well be important and I mean I have no idea who de-briefed this guy quite often it's someone who has no idea of the topic and the information comes through and people then use it as they see fit

SW so it wasn't as if there were lots of people saying don't put it in don't put it in it's just it was in there and was seized upon . rather than number ten specifically going against. ?

DK. there were lots of people saying that – I mean it was an interesting week before the dossier was put out because there were so many things in there that people were saying well we're not so sure about that, or in fact they were happy with it being in but not expressed the way that it was, because the word-smithing is actually quite important, and the intelligence community are a pretty cautious lot on the whole but once you get people putting it/presenting it for public consumption of course they use different words I don't think they're being wilfully dishonest I think they just think that that's the way the public will appreciate it best. I'm sure you have the same problem as a journalist don't you, sometimes you've got to put things into words that the public will understand

SW simple

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